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**Rex Oggs  
performs at ZC  
Academic Pop  
Rally**

**Brantley Bulldogs  
defeat Elba Tigers  
in season opener**

# The Elba Clipper

Volume 111, Number 13      50 Cents      Elba, Alabama      Thursday, September 6, 2007      1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

## Geneva County man arrested in connection with Coffee County burglaries

by Linda Hodge, Editor

A Geneva County man arrested recently in Coffee County on a theft of property charge this week found himself facing several more charges of theft of property first degree and burglary third degree.

Marlon Wade

Pendavis, a resident of Hartford, Ala., was arrested Friday, Aug. 24, in connection to a burglary that occurred Tuesday, Aug. 21, in the northern part of Coffee County. This week officials with the Coffee County Sheriff's

**"As we go along, it just keeps building, building and building," said Coffee County Sheriff's Department Chief Deputy R.W. Whitworth in regards to the cases against burglary suspect Marlon Wade Pendavis.**

Department \_\_\_\_\_ additional said Pendarvis faces additional crimes after the continuing charges of theft of property first investigation revealed Pendarvis degree and burglary third degree as the suspect in several other in connection with up to seven burglaries within the county.

Whitworth said the suspect has been cooperative with officials in admitting to the burglaries. He said the suspect has said he probably committed 18-20 burglaries (not all in Coffee County).

Pendarvis' burglary spree in Coffee County dates back to April of this year.

Whitworth said officials were led to Pendarvis after he reportedly burglarized a utility building Tuesday, Aug. 21, at a residence that had wildlife cameras.

by **Linda Hodge**, Editor

The investigation into this burglary led Coffee County officials to Geneva County where they discovered Geneva County also was looking for the suspect.

Whitworth said a search war-

residence in Hartford on Thursday, Aug. 23, and officials then began finding the many, many items reported stolen during the search.

During recent meeting of Coffee County Storytellers Club

## Attendees urged to share passion of telling stories with youth

by Linda Hodges, Editor

Those interested in the art of storytelling gathered recently in the community room of the county complex in New Brockton for a meeting of the Coffee County Storytellers Club.

The meeting was only the second

The meeting was only the second for this new club, but several citizens showed they are indeed interested in bringing sto-

Club leaders said they really see storytelling as an art, and they encouraged those attending

the meeting to share their passion for storytelling with youth.

"Storytelling has been entertaining throughout the years," said Elsie Hilton, a club leader. "Storytelling stimulates the imagination."

Hilton said it is important to try and get young people

involved in storytelling. She said there is so much for them to learn that they cannot get from the television.

While a discussion of bringing storytelling to the county's youth was an important part of the

They discussed possibly holding the club's annual meeting at the club.

The Coffee County Storytelling Club will hold another work meeting in October. Anyone interested in storytelling is invited to attend these meetings. More information should be available prior to the meeting.

**On Duty: Meet the Coffee County EMS Team**

Randall Hughes joined the Coffee County EMS team eight months ago. He serves as a paramedic.

Hughes' training includes NREMT-P, CPR, ACLS, PEPP, BLS, S-Advanced and EVOC.

When asked what he enjoys most about his job he said "helping people in their time of need."

Hughes said his most memorable experience on the job was when he saved the life of an 11-year-old child that was involved in a wreck.

He is also employed with Geneva Rescue Squad.

Randall's family includes his wife, Beth, and step-daughter Kimberlee. He said his hobbies include computers, drawing and fishing.

Parmedic Randall Hughes

# SEPTEMBER



## EDITORIAL

## Democracy assaulted in the U. S. House

Today we are betting there will be no special session of the Alabama legislature this fall. There had been rumblings and whispers for over a week that the governor was seeking guarantees before making the special session official. Well the daily newspapers are now reporting those whispers as facts and adding in that they are getting feedback from enough senators (and House members) to give such a session a bleak outlook.

Some of the loudest Alabama citizens calling for a special session are Gulf Coast builders who want insurance laws passed to make their future high rise construction more affordable to vacationers. We don't know exactly how this would work in actual practice but if it means averaging out insurance cost across the state and our office and personal home rates going up . . . forget it! If cost is exceeding demand, maybe it is time to stop building those high rise buildings on every inch of land . . . at least for a while.

Just recently we wrote about a group pushing to have public schools start classes somewhere around the first of September, rather than earlier and earlier in August. They cited studies that it is best for the children. Well over the weekend we read of another organization citing studies that students learn better when they go to school in other than the "nine months in three months" which has been American tradition. This study also claimed the student retain more of their learning when they go to school year-round and have small breaks throughout the year. If all these folks are comparing apples to apples . . . someone - well someone isn't telling the truth. However it wouldn't be surprising that both can "prove" their point. There is an old adage that one can make numbers and surveys give the results desired.

It had fallen our lot to make eating arrangements in Eufaula to feed a fairly large group of people last Saturday evening. We felt real good about our decisions . . . until we got to the restaurant right at the scheduled six o'clock arrival time and found the owners and staff sitting out front of the darkened building. Lightning had knocked out a power transformer and it and the power pole were lying in the back alley. All ended well as they had taken it upon themselves and called the local country club, making arrangements for them to feed that bunch of chow hounds. We got good directions on how to get there and found a smiling lady waiting for us in front of the building. Upon stepping inside, everything was ready, as if that had been planned weeks in advance. The food was good and there were even three televisions to entertain the football fans in our group.

## Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, August 27, 2007, investigated the following incidents: two for burglary; three incidents, two for harassment, two for possession of a controlled substance, one for a missing juvenile, two for criminal mischief, one for menacing, two for assault, one for duty to give information and render aid, one for theft, one for minor in possession of alcohol, one for minor in possession of tobacco, two for theft of property and one for a fuel theft.

The following arrests were made: two for possession of marijuana, one for possession of a controlled substance, one for failure to appear, one for assault, two for harassment, one for theft of property and two for minor in possession of alcohol.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: two for violation of the seat belt law, two for speeding, one for duty to give information and render aid, one for violation of the child restraint law, one for no driver's license, one for no insurance and one for violation of the noise ordinance.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

**MONDAY, AUGUST 27** - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 656 County Rd. 117 (4:48 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 516 Williams St. (11:03 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 21952 Hwy. 189 N. (12:40 p.m.); Private property accident reported at 711 Eisenhower Loop (2:10 p.m.); Accident (vehicle vs. building) reported at 980 Dayton Ave. (3:18 p.m.); Theft reported at 758

West St. (6:20 p.m.).  
**TUESDAY, AUGUST 28** - Burglary reported at 1244 Martin Luther King Dr. (6:11 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 444 County Rd. 418 (6:42 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 317 Collier St. (6:44 p.m.).

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29** - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1118 Caroline St. (5:06 a.m.); Hit and run reported at Hayes Funeral Home (3:43 p.m.); Fight in progress reported on Adams St. (6:45 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to County Rd. 209 (10:16 p.m.).

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 30** - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1031 Teresa St. (11:10 a.m.); Private property accident reported at the Shell Station (10:26 p.m.).

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 31** - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1831 County Rd. 418 (7:37 a.m.); Private property accident reported at the post office (1:59 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 885 Cedar Lane Dr. (5:02 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 977 Claxton Ave. (7:05 p.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported at Jackson St. (11:00 p.m.).

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1** - Coffee County EMS dispatched to 709 Roosevelt Dr. (6:02 a.m.).  
**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2** - Domestic disturbance (verbal) reported at 108 Cordelia (1:36 a.m.); Wreck reported at the MarketPlace (10:55 a.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported at the Shell Station (3:03 p.m.); Burglary reported at 411 Addison St. (8:48 p.m.).

## The Elba Clipper

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Congressman Terry Everett

The new Democrat Congress has been graded a disappointment, ranging from its failure to pass meaningful legislation, to its brazen disregard for the will of the American people on a number of serious issues. But its most recent affront to democracy itself has sunk the U.S. House of Representatives to a new low.

Late on the night of August 2, as the House was debating the annual agricultural spending bill, the Democrat majority felt it no longer had to adhere to the rules. Perhaps the liberal leadership of the House thought no one would be watching when they strong-armed the House parliamentarian to change the outcome of a vote that did not go their way.

At issue was whether the federal government should provide illegal aliens federal housing and employment benefits. The liberal majority was not pleased when Republicans called for a vote to include language in the bill specifically barring illegals from receiving such benefits. Liberals hadn't counted on conservatives actually winning the vote - which we did by a 215

to 213 margin. Stunned, the House liberal speaker instead declared the vote a "tie" (214 to 214) and proclaimed that the conservatives had lost the vote. The House floor immediately exploded in anger and disgust at this direct assault on democracy. To recap, as the gavel was dropped, the House speaker ignored the fact that the conservatives had won

with a two-vote margin. The electronic score boards in the House chamber showed the vote tally: 215 to 213. When the non-partisan House reading clerk announced that the motion to prohibit funding for illegal aliens had actually passed, Democrat Majority Leader Rep. Steny Hoyer, D-Maryland, rushed up to the

House parliamentarian shouting, "We control this House, not the parliamentarians!" And so, the liberals got their way. The vote was recorded as defeated. Not a proud moment for the House or for American democracy. The furor from the incident did, however, force House liberals to accede to a special committee investigation with subpoena powers to look into the conduct of the leadership during the stolen vote. As the Washington Post pointed out, this move in itself was remarkable. "Such powerful investigative committees are usually reserved for issues such as the Watergate scandal and the funneling of profits from Iranian arms sales to the Nicaraguan contras in the 1980's."

Amazingly, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-California, characterized the whole shameful episode by her leadership as an "inconvenience" for the Republican minority. But this is the same Speaker Pelosi who began the year proclaiming "this leadership team will create the most honest, most open, and most ethical Congress in history."

The 110th Congress leadership is not only ignoring its own promises for civility and ethics reform - neither of which have yet been demonstrated - but it continues to ignore the will of the American people on the key issue of immigration reform. Just two weeks ago, House liberals also passed legislation that would effectively allow illegal immigrants to receive access to child health care and Medicare benefits, even while these same liberal lawmakers cut Medicare benefits to Seniors to pay for this new giveaway.

Sadly, all year long the liberal leadership of the House has chosen to exclude the minority party from participating in the writing of most major legislation or in the offering of amendments. They choose to govern by "martial law" rather than by an open and democratic manner. As a result, very little is being accomplished for the American people. We are all the losers.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my utter disbelief and infatuation over the Views from... the Pressbox written by Ricky Mulaz in the August 16, 2007, edition of The Elba Clipper.

I do realize that everyone does not share my feelings of love and adoration for dogs, but are you kidding me? Mr. Mulaz writes "the (the dog) is now on his on (by the way, the correct word to use here would have been, but this letter is ultimately not about the correct use of English, just fair and just treatment of a helpless dog), and will have to be quick to avoid my kicks and throws as he depends on me to take care of him." Is this type of mentality even tolerated anymore?

After the passage of laws such as the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act by our United States Government in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the "bad news" that awaits the now infamous Michael Vick and his dog fighting buddies as they face "big house" time and he looks ahead to an NFL-less future, and rapper DMX is facing very unpleasant public scrutiny over the condition of his 12 emaciated dogs seized by authorities from his property in Arizona with 3 more dogs found dead on that same property, therefore, to answer my own question... I think NOT!

Mr. Mulaz if you harbor such disparagement for this "family dog," who sounds as though cared enough about your girls to "wait for the door to open until its time to go to bed and then check both their bedrooms before coming back into the den..." then be fair to him and find him ANOTHER home; one where he will be treated well and taken care of properly, one where he does not have to "be quick to avoid my kicks and throws," and one where he will be loved and appreciated beyond measure.

I guess these musings really should not have been such a surprise coming from someone who "used to think it was a long ride from Elba to Troy" and now splits the 30-mile trek "into thirds." (Views from... The Pressbox by Ricky Mulaz, August 23, 2007 edition of The Elba Clipper). Mr. Mulaz, with all due respect, perhaps you might consider broadening your horizons a bit.

In closing, I will leave you with a favorite quote of mine by Louis Sabin that illustrates magnificently the true essence of the wonderful canine ---- "A dog doesn't care if you're rich or poor, big or small, young or old. He doesn't care if you're not smart, not popular, not a good joke-teller, not the best athlete, nor the best-looking person. To your dog, you are the greatest, the smartest, the nicest human being who was ever born. You are his friend and protector."

Shea Ward Barnett, High Point, NC (formerly of Elba, AL)

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**BEATRICE McDERMOTT**  
Mrs. Beatrice McDermott, age 73, of Elba, Ala., died Wednesday, August 29, 2007, at Mitchell Memorial Hospital in Opp, Ala.

Funeral services were held Aug. 31, 2007 at Hayes Funeral Home Chapel in Elba with Father Jan Zagorski officiating. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery, Elba, with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Mrs. McDermott was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph Arthur McDermott; a sister, Syble Berry; and a brother, Donnie Hall.

Survivors include one daughter: Mary Lynn McDermott, Elba; one son: Joey McDermott (wife Dawn), Cincinnati, Ohio; two sisters: Agnes Coleman and Francis Crawford, both of Elba; two brothers: Cecil Hall, Marianna, Fla., Lamar Hall, Elba; and one grandchild.

**ELVIE RUTH (PINCKARD) WESTBROOK**  
Mrs. Elvie Ruth (Pinckard) Westbrook, age 90, of Elba, Ala., died Sunday, Sept. 2, 2007, at Dale County Medical Center in Ozark, Ala.

Funeral services were held Sept. 4, 2007 at Wise Mill Assembly of God Church with Rev. Kenneth Hagler officiating. Burial followed in the Wise

Mill Assembly of God Church Cemetery, Elba, with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Mrs. Westbrook was preceded in death by her husband, Edward Lee Westbrook; mother, Ada (Simmons) Pinckard; and father, John Shelby Pinckard.

Survivors include one son: Ronnie Glen (wife Nancy) Westbrook, Elba; two granddaughters: Kimberly Ann (husband Kevin) Marsh, Monica Jill (husband Ashley) Weeks, Ozark, Ala.; three great-granddaughters: Kaitlyn Patricia Marsh, LeAnne Jill Marsh and Shelby Brooke Weeks, all of Ozark; and one great-grandson: David Westbrook Weeks, also of Ozark.

**FLETCHER HOUSTON HODGE**  
Mr. Fletcher Houston Hodge, age 80, of Elba, Ala., died Sunday, Sept. 2, 2007, at his home in Elba.

Funeral services were held Sept. 5, 2007 at 4 p.m. from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Lloyd Hodge officiating. Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery, Elba, with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his wife: Evelyn Edvyna Hodge, Elba; one son: Jackie (wife Patricia E.) Hodge, Elba; three step

daughters: Brenda Nelson, Elba, Sherry Stanton, Wing, Ala., and Tina Faulkner, Zolfo Springs, Fla.; one step son: Wade Stanton, Georgia; one sister: Maudie Shelkofsky, Montgomery, Ala.; one brother: Leavie Hodge, Deatsville, Ala.; two grandsons: Timothy Christian Hodge, Jacksonville, Fla., and William Jason Hodge, Elba.

**JAMES AUSTIN HYATT**  
Mr. James Austin Hyatt, age 77, of Enterprise, Ala., died Monday, Sept. 3, 2007, at his residence.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, Sept. 6, at the Hayes Funeral Home Chapel in Elba beginning at 2 p.m. with Rev.

Richard Moss officiating. Burial will follow in Phillips Cemetery, near New Brockton, Ala., with Hayes Funeral Home directing. Visitation was Wednesday, Sept. 5, from 6-8 p.m. at Hayes Funeral Home.

Survivors include his wife: Annie Lou Kelley Hyatt, Enterprise; two daughters: Lou Ann (husband Hubert Ray) Bryan, Elba, Donna (husband James "Bo") Murdock, Spicewood, Texas; one son: Kelley (wife Brenda) Hyatt, Ozark, Ala.; one brother: John Herbert Hyatt, Skipperville, Ala.; nine grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

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## NOTICE

Elba High School will celebrate Homecoming on Friday, Sept. 28.

Activities will begin with the Convocation at 9:00 a.m. in the stadium. EHS will honor the Class of 1977 with a tea at 2 p.m. in the Family and Consumer Science Department. The parade will be at 3 p.m. from the old high school location. Entries should be listed by calling Jane Moseley at EHS (897-2266).

Friday night the Homecoming Court will be presented at 6:30 p.m. followed by the game with New Brockton at 7 p.m.

## BULLETIN BOARD

• ABUSING CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES THROUGH CHRIST A.E.M.S. addiction recovery ministry services - Thurs. 7 p.m. - Ino Baptist Church. Call 565-9770 or visit the website: www.inobaptist.com.

• ALCOHOL & DRUG RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP - every Tuesday at 6 p.m. - Shiloh Baptist Church of Elba. Call 897-5307 for more information.

• SOCIAL SECURITY REP. - Courtroom: 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30. Call FREE 1-800-772-1213.

• ROTARY CLUB - Tuesday @ Noon-First First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

• ELBA CITY COUNCIL - 2nd & 4th Monday - 6 p.m. - City Hall

• WATER & ELECTRIC - Tuesday following 2nd Monday - 6 p.m. - City Hall

• ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN. - Tues. - 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

• GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - every Monday 6:30 p.m. Elba United Methodist Church - enter on side on W. Davis St. - Maggie Garrett Classroom.

• COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton

• LIONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizen Center

• ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD - 2nd Tues. - 7:30 p.m. - Supr. Office

• AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Tuesday of every month - 7:00 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.

• MASONIC LODGE 176 - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month - 7 p.m.

• BAND BOOSTERS - 1st Mon. - 7 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School

• VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER - Mon-Fri. 8-12 noon & 12:30 - 4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 694-5858

• COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat. - 3 p.m. - Club House

• COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN - 3rd Wed. Noon - Pk. Folks, Enterprise

• ELBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY - 1st Thursday at 4:30 PM, the FBO office at the Airport

• AARP meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month

• ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB - 2nd & 4th Monday - 7 p.m. - Elba High boys locker room

• NEW SEASONS STUDY CLUB - Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.

• ELBA REWARDS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Thursday - Noon - Elba Public Library

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## FOCUS ON FACTS

Aaron Burr & Alexander Hamilton. Through the University of Michigan.

To this day, many of Burr's plans remain unclear, although by the fall of 1806, it was clear to Wilkinson that the plan had little chance of success. Hoping to save himself, he sent a letter outlining the conspiracy to President Thomas Jefferson. While Wilkinson did not name either Burr or himself, much of the information was already public knowledge.

Jefferson went to Congress, who supported the President and a charge of







# SCHOOLS



## Tiger Tales

Editors:  
Erica Daniels &  
Kelly Corder

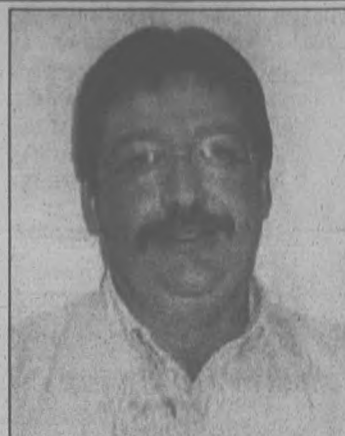
### Teacher Spotlight

This week's teacher spotlight is Bruce Sasser. He is the welding technology instructor at Elba High.

Mr. Sasser has taught for 19 years, and all 19 years have been with Elba City Schools. He has attended a variety of schools including ESJC, LBW, Auburn University and Athens State.

Mr. Sasser has been married for 26 years to Phyllis Sasser. He has one son, Christopher, a daughter-in-law, Ashley, and two grandchildren, Taylor Grace, age three, and Jamison Carter, age three weeks.

Mr. Sasser enjoys spending time with his family, going to church, watching NASCAR and working in his shop.



Bruce Sasser

## Elba Tigers outscore Goshen Eagles in preseason contest

by Erica Daniels

On Friday, Aug. 24, the Elba Tigers kicked off the 2007 season with a jamboree game against the Goshen Eagles.

The game began with the Eagles scoring in the first quarter of the contest. Carlos Matias, running back for the Elba Tigers, helped turn the game around as he scored a touchdown making the score 6-6.

Before the end of the second quarter the Eagles scored once again which brought the score to Tigers 6 and Eagles 14.

The Goshen band performed, and afterwards the Elba High School Marching Tiger Band took the field for their halftime performance.

The teams returned to the field for the third quarter. The Tigers scored a third quarter touchdown by Dimetro Tyson,

which tied the game with a score of 14-14. The Eagles then scored, which changed the score to Tigers 14 Eagles 22.

The Tigers led fourth quarter when Jason Mitchell intercepted a pass and scored an easy TD. The score changed to Tigers 20

Eagles 22, then Jason scored another touchdown, which put the Tigers 26 Eagles 22.

The Tigers last score came on a 77-yard touchdown pass from Trey Martin to Gavin Respress. The Eagles scored once again before the end of the quarter. The final score of the game was Elba 33-Goshen 30.



Elba Tigers stretch their muscles prior to the start of the second half of the preseason game



Elba Marching Tiger Band prepares to perform during halftime of the preseason game

## Elba Lady Tiger volleyball season underway

by April Price

The Elba Lady Tigers' volleyball team headed to Samson Thursday, Aug. 23, to begin their season. Both the JV and varsity ladies played, and though there were some highlights of the game, Elba returned home with a sad loss.

The JV team consists of Lindsey Canley, Bethany Wilson, Molly McGuire, Sydney Crittenden, Kei-Anna Edwards, Keyawne Gavin, Kelia Miller, Cortnee Driggers, Chastity Slenker and Pricilla Simmons. Even though they played well, they still lost with scores of 21-25, 25-11 and 22-25.

April Price, Shanika Pruitt, Cynricka Dean, Kayla Kyser, Kayla Rials, Megan King, LeAnna Henderson, Janae Canley and Ashley Bailey make up the varsity team, and they also have outstanding talent. With scores of 14-25, 24-26 and 22-25 their talent was almost overlooked.

The Elba Lady Tigers are not without hope though. Their coach, Amanda Martin, looks forward to an awesome season.



The Lady Tigers are looking forward to a successful season on the court

### ELBA TIGER FOOTBALL

Elba vs. Headland  
Friday Night, Sept. 7,  
in Headland

### Student Spotlight

by Yoquesha Terry

This week's student spotlight is Alexis Tillis.

Alexis is the 14-year-old daughter of Anissa Tillis. Her hobbies include talking on the phone, shopping and hanging with friends.

Alexis attends Harris Temple Church of God in Christ, where she is an active youth member. Her future plans after graduation are to attend Auburn in Montgomery to be a lawyer, or join the Air Force.

Alexis describes herself as smart, crazy and pretty.



Alexis Tillis

## Elba Elementary School Menu

September 10-14, 2007

BREAKFAST	LUNCH
<b>Monday</b> - Cinnamon Bun, Sliced Cheese, Cereal, Juice, Milk	<b>Monday</b> - Corn dog, Macaroni and Cheese, Turnips, Cornbread, 1/2 Orange, Milk
<b>Tuesday</b> - Pancakes w/Syrup, Link Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Milk	<b>Tuesday</b> - Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Tater Tots, Green Beans, Ice Cream, Milk
<b>Wednesday</b> - Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Juice, Milk	<b>Wednesday</b> - Taco Salad, Corn on Cob, 1/2 Apple, Milk
<b>Thursday</b> - Biscuit/Jelly, Sausage Patty, Cereal, Juice, Milk	<b>Thursday</b> - Hamburger, Oven Fries, Tomato, Lettuce, Dill Pickles, Jello, Milk
<b>Friday</b> - Cheese Grits, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk	<b>Friday</b> - Vegetable Beef Soup, Cheese Sandwich, Crackers, Banana, Milk

### Announcements:

TO THE COMMUNITY, ELBA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND ELBA HIGH SCHOOL: Contact Jane Moseley regarding this year's Homecoming parade line up. This theme for this year's parade is "Classic Rock from the 50s, 60s and 70s." Homecoming is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 28, 2007. GRANDPARENT'S DAY at Elba Elementary School will be Tuesday, Sept. 11th.

www.elbaed.com

## Grandparent's Day planned for Sept. 11th at Elba Elementary

Grandparent's Day will be held Tuesday, Sept. 11, at Elba Elementary School.

All students are encouraged to make invitations for their grandparents and invite them to attend. The morning will begin at 9 a.m. with the grandparents having a

breakfast consisting of Cinnamon Rolls, Fruit, Juice, Milk, Water and Coffee. After breakfast, they are encouraged to visit their grandchildren's classroom.

The morning will end at 10:30 a.m. All grandparents are encouraged to attend.

## EOCC accepting registrations for second mini-term session of fall

Enterprise-Ozark Community College continues to accept registrations for the second mini-term session due to begin October 11.

Second mini-term classes will be offered days and evenings on

the Enterprise Campus and during the evenings at the Fort Rucker Site. The second mini-term session affords students with opportunities to take the second parts of course series already completed.

For more information about how to register for these courses or about the courses and programs of study, go online at [www.eocc.edu](http://www.eocc.edu) or call the Enterprise Campus at (334) 347-2623 or the Fort Rucker Site at (334) 598-3438.

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# SCHOOLS

## Zion Chapel Journalism staff welcomes new additions

by Rod Rider

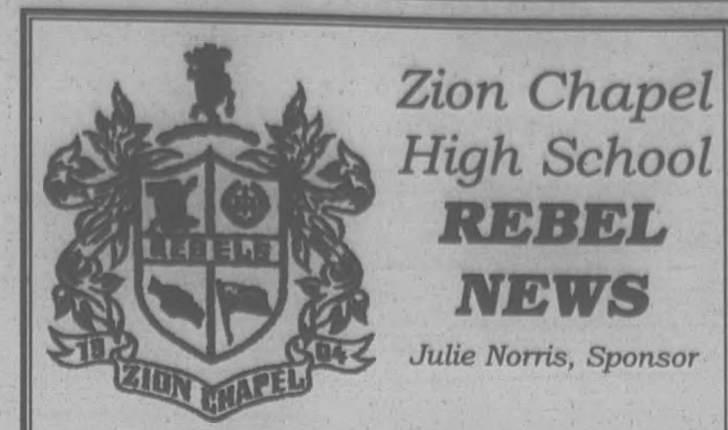
In 2006, Ms. Julie Norris stepped up and started the journalism staff as an elective at Zion Chapel.

Last year was a great success, and this year there are some new goals and some new members to help achieve these goals. New members include a combination of juniors and seniors that bring new talents and high expectations.

The new members of the 2007-2008 Journalism staff are: Candice Allen, Chasidy Allen, Carolyn Becker, Tiffany Bryan, Brittany Cardwell, Kayla Crook, Brittany Layton, Kristen Patterson, Kasey Rushing, Wes Senn, Ashley Snellgrove, Kyle Tankersley, and Robby Thrash.



2007-08 Zion Chapel Journalism Staff



## Bob Hartwell takes over as new principal of Zion Chapel School

Bob Hartwell, former assistant principal at Zion Chapel, has recently taken the job as principal.

What people notice first about Principal Hartwell is his genuine interest in the school and his students. With his enthusiasm, kindness, concern for others and willingness to listen, there is no question as to why the school is so proud to have him as principal.

When asked what the difference was between being assistant principal compared to principal he replied, "A lot more responsibility, more attention to detail, and one has to remember to include everyone in the decisions that are made."

Mr. Hartwell is a former principal to a very large school in Texas, and he is really enjoying working at a small, close-knit school like Zion Chapel.

"By being able to get to know people on a more personal basis, helping them to be more effective," says Principal Hartwell.

Mr. Hartwell has plans to make the parking situation bet-



Bob Hartwell

ter and to expand the school with the land that has been donated. Zion Chapel will surely benefit from anything Principal Hartwell does, because to him academics is number one. He believes in his commitment to his job, and he has a lot to offer the school and community.

## Zion Chapel welcomes new band director

by Sheema-Marie Hussey

The Zion Chapel Marching Rebel Band recently got a new band director.

Miss Erin Grace McLaughlin, 23, has joined the band family. She is a graduate of Deltona High School, in Deltona, Fla., and she attended Troy University.

In high school, she played the oboe, and she also marched in the Troy University Sound of the South. In addition to playing the piccolo, she was on colorguard.

Miss McLaughlin enjoys

music and learning new things. Before becoming band director, she taught private lessons, but she has never taught at a school.

When asked about her thoughts on the upcoming band season, she replied, "We will have a great band. It is amazing how hard the students are working, and everyone can see the results!"

Also, when asked about Zion Chapel, she replied, "I have a great group of ambitious students and a very supportive faculty. I've been blessed by getting my position here and will do my best all year!"



Erin Grace McLaughlin

## School year begins with Academic Pep Rally

by Kayla Crook

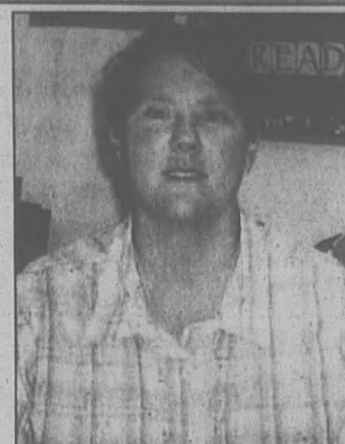
On Aug. 8th, Zion Chapel High School came back into session. After a long first day all the students and faculty went down to the football field for some motivation.

The festivities began with the Senior Class of 2008 walking out to Sweet Home Alabama, to show their new role in school this year. Balloons were passed out to everyone and released in the middle of the pep rally.

Rex Oggs, a rising country music star, was there to entertain the students and gave an inspirational speech informing the students what a small town is all about. Larry Blakeney, football coach of the Troy University Trojans, also attended and gave a very uplifting speech, saying God first, family second, education third and everything else is the order you make it.



## Interview w/ Lori McCrory



Lori McCrory

Mrs. Lori McCrory, the new media specialist and previous high school math teacher, recently answered several questions during an interview. She answered them all, wearing a smile the whole time.

Q: What made you want to go from teaching math to running the library?

A: I wanted a new challenge.

Q: Do you like running the library more than you did teaching math?

A: I haven't done it long enough yet to know for sure, but I think I'm going to.

Q: What kind of improvements are you working towards for the library?

A: To make the library more accessible to both the teachers and the students.

Q: Do you miss anything about teaching?

A: I kind of miss the regular schedule.

Q: Can you see yourself here in the library next year, or are

you going to try something different?

A: In the library

Q: Have you learned anything from working in the library?

A: I'm learning how to run Concourse, and complete catalogs and classifications of books and other media.

Q: Do you have any regrets about switching?

A: No, not yet.

## Dual enrollment classes offered at ZC

by Stephanie Berry

For the first time ever dual enrollment classes are being offered for the juniors and seniors at Zion Chapel.

The seniors are taking English 101 first semester and English 102 second semester. The juniors are taking U.S. History 201

first semester and U.S. History 202 second semester.

Students are given credit for both the high school required course and the college course they are taking. Dual enrollment is a great opportunity for students to get a feel for college courses while they are still in high school.

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**IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA**  
IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF Christopher Lee Gilley  
CASE NO: PC 2007-041  
NOTICE OF HEARING  
NOTICE TO: John Moltor- ADDRESS UNKNOWN

You will take notice that a Petition for Adoption of Colton William Skipper was filed on the 14th day of Aug, 2007 by the Petitioner named above and that the 18th day of October, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. has been set for a hearing on the same in said Court in the city of Elba, Alabama. Please be advised that if you intend to contest this adoption you must file a written response within thirty (30) days thereof with counsel for said Petitioner, whose name and address are as shown below and with the Clerk of the said Probate Court.

Done this 22nd day of August, 2007.

Attorney for Petitioner(s): J. E. Sawyer, Jr., 203 South Edwards Street Enterprise, AL 36330 (334) 347-6447

8/30, 9/6, 13, 20-2c

IN THE MATTER OF KENDALL EDWARD CROOK, Deceased  
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION  
CASE NO: PC-07-040  
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Letters of Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to the undersigned on the 23rd day of August, 2007, by the Honorable William O. Gammill, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Witness my hand this 23rd day of August, 2007.

/s/ Lessa Ann Crooks and Cristelle Marie Crook Greer Personal Representative  
8/30, 9/6, 13-1p.

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
NOTICE is hereby given that a bill substantially as follows will be introduced in the next session of the Legislature of Alabama commencing after the fourth consecutive week of publication of this notice, and application for its passage and enactment will be made:

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT**  
To propose an amendment to Amendment 633 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 5, Local Amendments, Coffee County, Official Recognition of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, to allow the sheriff to participate in the State Employees' Retirement System.

**Section 1.** The following amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 5, Local Amendments, Coffee County, Official Recognition of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, to allow the sheriff to participate in the State Employees' Retirement System.

**Section 2.** The following amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 5, Local Amendments, Coffee County, Official Recognition of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, to allow the sheriff to participate in the State Employees' Retirement System.

**Section 3.** In addition to any other court costs, any person convicted of the offense of selling and/or trafficking a controlled substance shall be fined not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000 upon conviction, the five hundred dollars (\$500) to be paid to the Jail Fund, to be used for the payment of the cost of construction, financing, planning, equipping, maintenance, repair, and operation of the county jail. These costs shall be taxed upon conviction as additional court costs.

**Section 4.** Sections 4 and 5 of Act 90-435, 1990 Regular Session (Acts 1990, p. 599), are repealed.

**Section 5.** Act 90-316, 1990 Regular Session (Acts 1990, p. 430), is repealed.

**Section 6.** Act 90-316, 1990 Regular Session (Acts 1990, p. 430), is repealed.

**Section 7.** Act 90-316, 1990 Regular Session (Acts 1990, p. 430), is repealed.

**Section 8.** Act 90-316, 1990 Regular Session (Acts 1990, p. 430), is repealed.

**Section 9.** Act 90-316, 1990 Regular Session (Acts 1990, p. 430), is repealed.

**Section 10.** Act 90-316, 1990 Regular Session (Acts 1990, p. 430), is repealed.

**Section 11.** Act 90-316, 1990 Regular Session (Acts 1990, p. 430), is repealed.

**Section 12.** Act 90-316, 1990 Regular Session (Acts 1990, p. 430), is repealed.

**Section 13.** Act 90-316, 1990 Regular Session (Acts 1990, p. 430), is repealed.

**Section 14.** Act 90-316, 1990 Regular Session (Acts 1990, p. 430), is repealed.

**Section 15.** Act 90-316, 1990 Regular Session (Acts 1990, p. 430), is repealed.

**Section 16.** Act 90-316, 1990 Regular Session (Acts 1990, p. 430), is repealed.

### LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that a bill substantially as follows will be introduced in the next session of the Legislature of Alabama commencing after the fourth consecutive week of publication of this notice, and application for its passage and enactment will be made:

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT**  
Relating to Coffee County; to amend Act 91-706 of the 1991 Regular Session (Acts 1991, p. 1375), to further provide for the meeting place of the county commission in the event of an emergency situation.

Section 1. Section 1 of Act 91-706 of the 1991 Regular Session (Acts 1991, p. 1375), is amended to read as follows:

"Section 1. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), all regular, special, and called meetings of the Coffee County Commission shall be held at the New Brockton Farm Complex located on U.S. Highway 84 in New Brockton, Alabama.

"(b) In the event of an emergency or disaster situation, when it is impractical to meet at the New Brockton Farm Complex, the Coffee County Commission may meet at any place in the county as determined by the chair of the commission."

Section 2. This act shall become effective immediately following its passage and approval by the



## SPORTS

## Views from... THE PRESSBOX By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Melissa came home from college for the first time in three weeks over the weekend and brought with her a laundry basket of dirty clothes and a puppy. The dirty clothes weren't a surprise, but the puppy was an unexpected guest that made itself right at home and had Dad out walking it around at least a few times an hour. I'll admit the puppy didn't cause any problems and was house broken. However, I hope it will be the last surprise either one of the girls bring home for quite a while.

### ELBA TIGERS FALL HARD IN SEASON OPENER

The Elba Tigers hosted the Brantley Bulldogs last week in their season opener and continued their gridiron struggles with a 34-8 loss to the 1A Bulldogs. The Tigers had high hopes going into the game and honestly believed a win was a possibility, but allowed Brantley to score on its initial two offensive possessions and never really threatened. On offense, Elba struggled for all four quarters and never got anything going until its final possession, when it avoided a shutout by driving 89 yards for a late score. Elba gained only 68 yards on the ground on 20 attempts, while in the air the Tigers also had little success as they completed only 7 of 22 passes, with one interception. A couple of late pass completions did make the stats look not quite so bad. However, until the final drive of the night the Tigers had a total of only 84 yards in offense. Over on defense, Elba allowed 30 points or more for the second straight week and once again struggled to stop the run. Brantley ran at the Tiger defense a total of 51 times in 57 plays, and averaged almost six yards a carry. Until the Tigers came up with a way to stop the run, their opponents will simply line up and run the football straight ahead. One game doesn't make or break a season, and Brantley had a fine football team, but the Elba Tigers appear to have several problems they must find a solution for very quickly or yet another in a long line of losing seasons will be on the way.

### AREA TEAMS HAVE MIXED RESULTS IN WEEK #1

The high school football season opened last week and for teams in the area the opening week brought with it a mixed bag of results. Here is a look back...

\*\*\* New Brockton finally had something to crow about Friday night as the Gamecocks posted a big 34-14 win over Zion Chapel. The Gamecocks lost to their cross-county rivals last season and lost more than just a few feathers in a preseason loss to Arton, but Friday night scored early to erase a Zion Chapel lead and then took charge late to blow the game open. The win may not have been a thing of beauty to many football purists. However, it was just the doctor ordered for the Gamecocks, and could lead to even bigger and better things as the season progresses.

\*\*\* Brantley was expected to be down a little after losing 17 seniors, and while it is true the Bulldogs no longer have a sideline filled with players, they still had more than enough to get the job done as they spanked Elba 34-8. The Bulldogs used a variety of weapons to light up the scoreboard, and over on defense the Dogs were as nasty as ever as they wandered around the field looking for someone in a different colored jersey to knock down. On paper, Brantley may not be as good as in years past and may not be a real contender for the 1A title. However, games are played on a football field and not in the papers, and these Bulldogs are still playing to win.

\*\*\* Zion Chapel was hoping to give new coach Thomas Boswell his first win as head coach of the Rebels, but let an early lead slip away and then saw the wheels fall off the wagon late in a 34-8 loss to New Brockton. The Rebels did look much improved at times from the week before in a preseason loss to Barbour County, but gave up some big plays and made some critical mistakes that helped lead to their downfall in the cross-county clash. If the Rebels can get a big dose of confidence sometime soon they could still have a shot at making the playoffs. If not, the nine-week march that lies ahead could be a rough one.

\*\*\* Kinston gave 2A Geneva County all it could handle last week before falling 18-7 in its season opener. The Bulldogs chose not to participate in a preseason game to get in a few extra fundamental practices, and it may have made a difference since Geneva County had the extra game to work out the kinks. Kinston had chances to put a lot of points on the scoreboard and moved the ball surprisingly well on offense, but didn't cash in on some of the chances, and the Bulldog defense let Geneva County score late in the half to take a two-touchdown lead that it never relinquished. It is hard to judge a team accurately based on just one game. However, the folks down in Kinston and the elite excited and they may just have the right to be.

### OPENING WEEK WAS FILLED WITH SURPRISES

The opening week of the high school football is always filled with surprises, and that was the case again this as Saturday morning's scoreboard resulted in more than just a few looks of amazement. Here is a quick look back at week one...

\*\*\* T.R. Miller's reign may be over, or at least in trouble, since the Tigers got rocked 36-7 in a season opening loss to Clarke County. Rumors had been heard all summer that Miller was going to be down this season; however, no one really paid any attention. Maybe those rumors were true, after all.

\*\*\* Abbeville made big news last season by winning nine games and making it into the second round of the playoffs, but apparently the bubble has already burst as the Yellow Jackets were shocked last week in a 24-20 loss to lowly Barbour County. Barbour County won only one game all of last season, but already has a win over Abbeville, and may have exposed the 'Jackets as a one season wonder.

\*\*\* Opp struggled to only one win last season and managed only a tie in a preseason clash with 1A Florida, but the Bobcats made everyone sit up and take notice Friday night as they stunned Luverne 19-18. The Bobcats were expected to be a little better this season and their fans were quietly optimistic. However, after beating Luverne the fans over in the city of opportunity will finally get passing over on defense, and there is no doubt the defense will get

the opportunity to cheer again about football.

\*\*\* UMS-Wright may have been a 4A power over the years, but the Bulldogs are now a 5A team, and last week found out how life is in the 6A ranks as it got pounded by McGill-Toolen 47-0. For years UMS-Wright and St. Paul's ruled the roost as private schools in Mobile, but after Friday night's whipping, the Bulldogs may have to find a few new 'Dogs for their point.

\*\*\* Also, Enterprise struggled and had to score late to escape with a narrow 16-13 win over perennial 5A whipping boy Carroll, while Straughn rallied in the second half to open the season with a 14-12 win over Red Level, and Pike County followed up its 20-13 preseason road win over 5A Charles Henderson with a 29-18 road win over 4A Andalusia. When the Bulldogs hit the field they could care less who the opponent may be.

### FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH...

\*\*\* Alabama scored on its opening play and never looked back as the Crimson Tide opened the season with an easy 52-6 win over lowly Western Carolina. The Tide rolled up 35 first downs and almost 600 yards in total offense in the win, but allowed 171 yards passing over on defense, and there is no doubt the defense will get tested next week when Alabama opens SEC play at Vanderbilt. It was a big win for the Bama fans and new coach Nick Saban. However, it was really little more than a scrimmage, and I'll reserve comment until the Tide faces a real opponent.

\*\*\* Auburn scored late to survive with a 23-13 win over Kansas State in a game in which the Tigers were outplayed for three and one-half quarters. The Auburn defense stepped up late to provide the spark needed to avoid the opening week upset, and once again Brandon Cox came through in the clutch after a rough night and made the plays to lead Auburn to the win. An ugly win is better than a pretty loss, and last weekend the Tigers hung up another ugly win on their side of the ledger.

\*\*\* Troy gave out of gas late in a 46-26 loss to Arkansas, and now must try to regroup and get healthy for a visit to the swamp to play the defending national champion Florida Gators. The Trojans matched the Hogs point for point in the second quarter and had their fans thinking about a possible upset, but Arkansas was simply too much down the stretch and pulled away to hand Troy another loss as the hands of a major college power. I understand the Trojans get paid well to serve as fodder for these big college programs. However, just maybe they could have more fun against schools their own size and making cuts in the budget.

\*\*\* and, the Elba High School football program has two pages that tell the visitors to the stadium what to do in case of just about anything that could happen. Those things include the lights going out, gunshots being fired at the buses, an emergency in the bleachers, and even what to do about unruly members of the media. I'm not sure I have ever seen a member of the media get wild at a game, but I guess it could happen, and at Elba the fans know what to do. Oh yes, about the only thing not opening weeks ever, but did get all the area picks correct and in spite of the upsets did hit on 18 of 27 picks. Here are this week's picks...

### POLISH PROGNOSTICATOR PLOTS ALONG

Ye Ole Polish Prognosticator stopped by the office over the weekend and was still shaking his head over some of the upsets that occurred last weekend in high school football. The local guru admitted he had one of his worst opening weeks ever, but did get all the area picks correct and in spite of the upsets did hit on 18 of 27 picks. Here are this week's picks...

### ELBA AT HEADLAND

The Pea River felines left the litter box full last week after being chased around the field by a bunch of Bulldogs, and this week must pack their bags for the ride over near the state line. Word is a herd of mountain goats reside on the pasture the felines hope to visit. So, if they are to enjoy the trip they will have to grow some claws and chase the goats away. In somewhat of an upset...

### ELBA 20 HEADLAND 14

## Elba's Coach Rials states Tigers must find renewed intensity to get big region win over Headland Rams

The Elba Tigers will kickoff region competition this week when they travel to Headland to battle the Headland Rams.

Both teams will bring 0-1 records into the clash, with Elba coming off a 34-8 loss to Brantley and Headland coming off a 13-6 loss to Florida.

"Headland beat us here in Elba last season and there is no doubt they will be looking forward to playing us on their home field," stated Elba's Coach Scott Rials. "They will be big and strong and physical, and be very well coached. I am sure they had a hard week of work after losing their opener to Florida, and they will be ready and fired up to get a big region win against us."

Headland, coached by Donnie Smith, posted a 3-7 last season after struggling to a 5-15 mark the previous two years, and is looking to reach the state playoffs for the first time in seven years.

"If we apply ourselves each week, making the playoffs is not out of reach," said Coach Smith, in a preseason interview. "There is a spirit of wanting to get to a championship caliber level, and now there is a consistent fighting spirit."

The Rams return a number of starters on both sides of the ball, including 10 players that saw action last season in the offensive line and a senior quarter-

### BRANTLEY AT PLEASANT HOME

The Bulldogs from up across the river will travel to the deep woods of Covington County this weekend on a bird hunt and have their eyes set on taking their first step toward claiming yet another region title. The birds were flying high last weekend and soared past a 2A opponent. However, the 'Dogs have their sights adjusted and should bring home their limit, and a win.

### BRANTLEY 35 PLEASANT HOME 7

### KINSTON AT MCKENZIE

The bullpups from down near the county line did a lot of barking last week, but their bark was worse than their bite as they dropped their season opener at home. This week the pups will head over to Butler County to tangle with a litter of kittens that have grown claws since last season, and will need more than just a loud bark to scare the kitties away. Looks like a long ride home, as well.

### MCKENZIE 29 KINSTON 8

### NEW BROCKTON AT WICKSBURG

The roosters from over near Mayberry put on their spurs last week and cut up their visitors from across the county in a big win. This week the roosters need to be in a really fowl mood when they head across Highway 84 to tangle with a batch of black cats, picked by many as the favorites to take home the region crown. While there is little doubt the roosters will be crowing, they need to be careful they aren't on the menu for supper.

### WICKSBURG 17 NEW BROCKTON 15

### ARITON AT ZION CHAPEL

The Rebels looked a little tired and ragged last week after taking a cross-county march, and this week will pitch their tents at home as they prepare for an invasion of purple looking kitties from just across the county line. If the Rebs can reload in time they might have a chance at bagging a few of the kitties. However, the guess here is there may not be enough bullets.

### ARITON 20 ZION CHAPEL 6

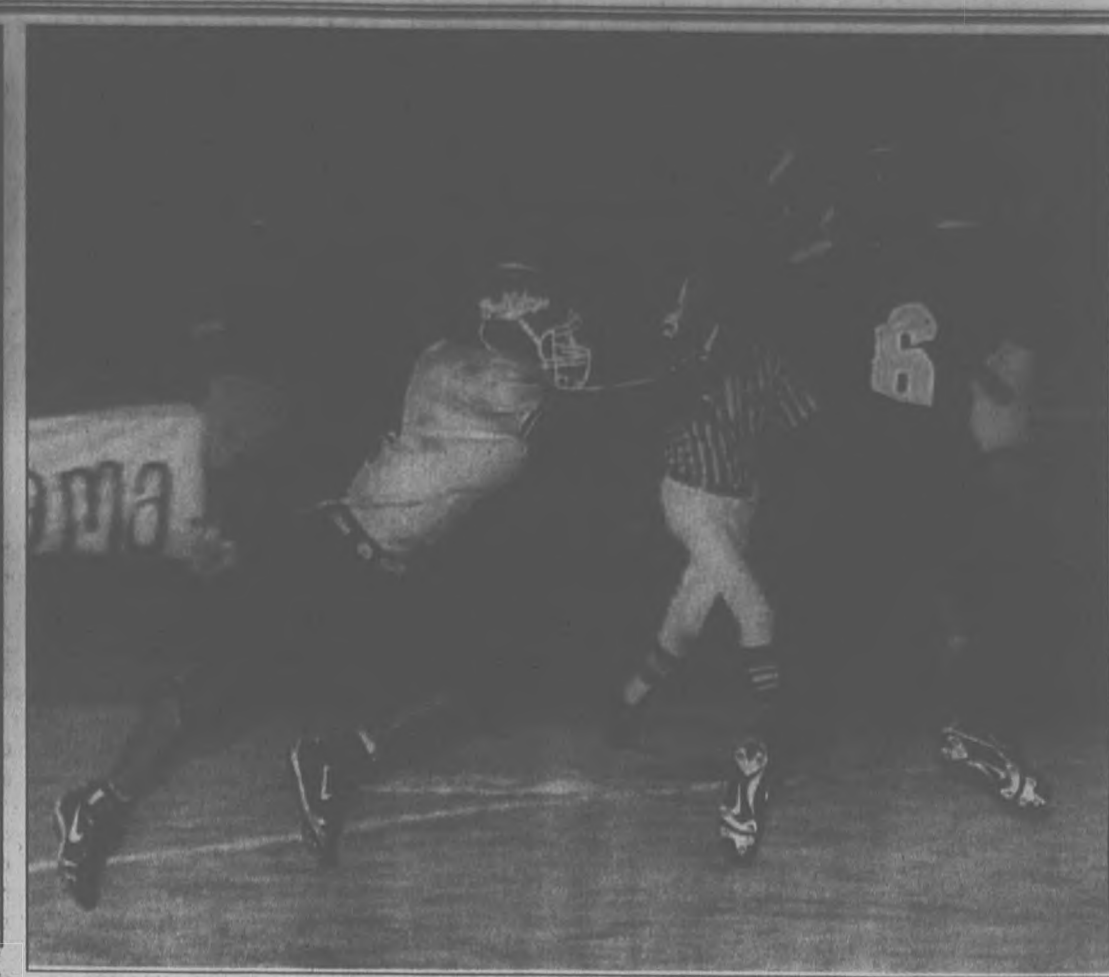
### OTHER PICKS:

Providence Christian 16 Florida 15  
Maplesville 47 Notasulga 6  
Sweet Water 56 Abbeville 0  
Loachapoka 26 Barbour County 14  
Cottonwood 21 Headland 6  
Red Level 20 Hiram 10  
Geneva County 22 G.W. Lee 7  
Highland Home 29 Goshen 20  
Houston Academy 31 Samson 0  
Luverne 33 Horseshoe Bend 0  
Straughn 28 Abbeville 7  
Clarke County 55 Calhoun 0  
Dale County 28 Slocomb 6  
Pike County 38 Geneva 13  
Opp 21 Alabama Christian 17  
Andalusia 24 St. James 10  
Trinity 21 Ashford 7  
Daleville 34 Bullock County 12  
Thomasville 42 Hillcrest 0  
T.R. Miller 27 Southview 6  
Charles Henderson 31 Lanier 6  
Eufaula 35 Reidsville 7  
Greenville 14 Elba 20  
Northview 26 Auburn 22  
Hoover 35 Carver, B'ham 0  
Prattville 42 Carver, Mont. 8  
Enterprise 28 Dothan 14  
Stanhope Elmore 31 Lanier 6  
Jeff Davis 28 Selma 10

## SPORTS



Brantley Bulldog tailback Anthony Gulley (2) tries to oull away from a would be tackle by Elba defensive lineman Jordan McBride (55) as Tiger teammates Sandarius Reed (11) and Trey Belcher (24) close in. Gulley gained 152 yards and scored 1 touchdown to lead the Bulldogs to the season opening win.



Elba Tiger wide-receiver Michael Lindsey (6) leaps to pull in a pass for a touchdown in the Tigers' 34-8 season-opening loss to Brantley. The fourth quarter touchdown pass covered 8 yards and capped an 89-yard scoring drive. Elba will enter region play this week with a road contest at Headland.

### In 34-8 loss to Brantley

## Lights go out on Elba Tigers

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor  
Statistics by Greg Brunson  
Photos by Mike Capps

The Elba Tigers kicked off their season last Friday night on the soggy turf at Mack Wood Field and were dominated on both sides of the all in a 34-8 loss to the Brantley Bulldogs.

Brantley received the opening kickoff and six plays later was in the endzone as the Bulldogs grabbed a lead they would never relinquish. Anthony Gulley gained 68 yards on five carries and scored the touchdown on a 4-yard sweep to put the 'Dogs on the scoreboard, and Britt Barnes added the extra-point as Brantley jumped out to a 7-0 lead with 9:17 still remaining in the opening quarter.

Elba showed signs of life on its initial possession and behind the running of Carlos Matias drove to a first down at the Brantley 23-yardline. Matias gained 32 yards on six carries to lead the Tigers down the field. However, the drive bogged down as it neared the Brantley endzone and when a fourth down pass missed its target the Tigers handed the ball over to Brantley at the Bulldog 21-yardline.

Brantley's second offensive possession of the game also resulted in a touchdown as the Bulldogs drove 79 yards in 11 plays, and survived a 50-minute delay due to the lights going out at the stadium. A 37-yard pass from Chase Hall to Dexter Daniels was a key play in the long scoring march, while Justin Wright and Anthony Gulley combined to gain 40 yards on nine carries. The touchdown came when Wright fumbled into the endzone and Brantley teammate Roy-L Knighten pounced on the loose ball for a touchdown. Barnes kicked the extra-point, and with 11:01 remaining in the second quarter the Bulldogs owned a 14-0 advantage.

Elba failed to move the chains on its next two possessions, but Brantley did threaten to add to its lead late in the half as the Bulldogs deep into Elba territory. Anthony Gulley gained 44 yards on five carries as Brantley reached a first down at the Elba 11-yardline. However, this time the Elba defense stiffened and turned back the scoring threat, as on the final play of the half Gulley was stopped three yards short of the endzone.

Brantley kicked off to open the second half, but got the ball right back when Justin Wright recovered an Elba fumble on the kickoff at the Tigers' 28-yardline. A 10-yard run by Anthony Gulley and an 11-yard pass from Chase Hall to Stephen Walker helped the Bulldogs move to the Elba 11, and two plays later Gulley again got the call and this time scored on a 4-yard dash up the middle. The extra-point failed, but with 8:09 left in the third quarter the Bulldogs had opened up a 20-0 lead.

The Elba offense went three plays and out for the third straight possession on its next visit to the field, while this time Brantley didn't even need to snap the football to get on the scoreboard, as the Bulldogs' Anthony Gulley fielded a punt at the Brantley 39, broke two tackles near midfield and raced 61 yards for a touchdown. Britt Barnes kicked the extra-point, and with 7:25 remaining in the third quarter the Bulldogs' lead was up to 27-0.

Elba did manage a first down on its next possession, but turned the ball over on a pass interception by Brantley's Roy-L Knighten at the Bulldogs 39-yardline, and Brantley covered the 65 yards to the endzone in eight plays to extend its lead.

Anthony Gulley gained 48 yards on three carries to spark the scoring drive, while Justin Wright added 17 yards on three carries and scored the touchdown on a 3-yard blast. Barnes kicked the extra-point, and with 5:52 remaining in the third quarter Brantley was in complete command with a 34-0 lead.

Elba turned the ball over on a fumble at the Brantley 47-yardline on its next possession, but did avoid a shutout on its next trip to the field as the Tigers drove 89 yards in eight plays to get on the scoreboard. A 53-yard pass from Trey Martin to Don Rhoades sparked the long scoring march, while Martin also added a 14-yard run and connected with Michael Lindsey on a 6-yard completion for the Tiger touchdown. Martin ran in the two-point conversion to add to the Elba total, but with 3:11 remaining on the clock it was all over as Brantley easily held on to post the 34-8 win.

Carlos Matias gained 21 yards on 6 carries to lead Elba on the ground, while Trey Belcher added 16 yards on 5 carries and Matt Brunson had 16 yards on 2 carries. Trey Martin gained 15 yards on 4 carries and completed 7 of 22 passes, with one interception, for 105 yards and one touchdown. Don Rhoades had one catch for 53 yards and Michael Lindsey had 2 catches for 21 yards and one touchdown.

Anthony Gulley gained 152 yards on 19 carries and scored 1 touchdown to lead Brantley, while Terrell Burnett added 62 yards on 8 carries and scored 1 touchdown. Chase Hall completed 4 of 5 passes for 48 yards, with Dexter Daniels hauling in 2 passes for 34 yards.

### STATISTICS

E	B
9	1st Downs 15
20-68	Rushes-Yds. 51-281
105	Passing Yds. 48
173	Total Offense 329
7-22-1	Passes 4-6-0
2	Fumbles Lost 0
3-35	Punts-Ave. 2-41
1-15	Penalties-Yds. 2-10



A Brantley Bulldog tackler jars the football loose from Elba running back Trey Belcher (24) during action last week in the Bulldogs' 34-8 win over the Tigers.



Dimetrio Tyson (77) drags down a Brantley runner.

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**SEPT. 8 GAMES**  
Elba at Zion Chapel  
Shipperville at New Brockton  
Highland Home at Luverne  
(Games at 5:30 - 6:30 - 7:30)

Brantley cheerleaders were all smiles late Friday night as the Bulldogs pulled away to claim a big 34-8 win over the Elba Tigers, in the season opener for both teams. The Bulldogs will enter region play this week with a road test at Pleasant Home.

**NEW HOUSE FOR SALE**  
1514 Sequoia Drive  
313-5963



## SPORTS

## Kinston drops opener to Geneva County 18-7

By Scott Johnson  
Photos by Mary Johnson

Kinston opened the '07 football season at home Friday night, but came up a little short in its first game under new head coach Sam Dean, losing to Geneva County 18-7.

The hometown defense forced a three and out to start the game, and a Matt Whigham punt return gave Kinston the football near midfield.

Geneva County recovered a loose football to regain possession, and gained two 1st downs before Kinston could shut them down. Kevin Rachel broke up a potential 1st down pass, and a long sack by Cruz Johnson and Luder Boswell forced another Geneva County punt.

Great coverage downed the punt inside the 1-yard line, and the visitors hoped to put a safety on the scoreboard. However, quarterback Aaron Jacobs found Luder Boswell for a 12 yard completion to give the Kinston offense room to work. Jacobs connected with Matt Whigham for a 20 yard gain, and carries by Erick Odom and Garrett Moore moved the ball across midfield.

The drive stalled, forcing a Chris Cosby punt, but Luder Boswell recovered a fumble to bring back Kinston's offense late in the first quarter.

Aaron Jacobs scrambled for one first down, while carries by Matt Whigham and Garrett Moore moved the chains once again. Geneva County saved a touchdown on a pass interference call, but the football was spotted at the 10-yardline, and the hometown crowd was anxious for the early lead.

The hometown Dawgs were denied the end zone; however, as Geneva County picked off a pass in the end zone and took over at the 20-yardline.

Inspired by its own defensive showing, Geneva County's offense came to life. Tyriquo Reese connected on 7 consecutive passes, the last being a 19-yard touchdown to Jonathan



Kinston head coach Sam Dean leads the Bulldogs on the field for Friday night's season opener against Geneva County. The Bulldogs lost the contest 18-7, but this week will swing into region action when they travel to McKenzie.

Greathouse. The 2-point conversion was stopped by Matt Whigham and Luder Boswell, but Geneva County led 6-0 midway through the second quarter.

Kinston's offense also moved the ball well late in the first half. Luder Boswell pulled in a 13-yard pass and Eric Odom and Garrett Moore combined to move across midfield. Jacobs found Kevin Rachel to move to the 35-yardline, but the Dawgs turned it over on downs with seconds left in the half.

Those seconds proved to be costly, as Geneva County's Karon White broke free to move deep into Kinston territory. Reese then connected with Kevin Key for a 31-yard touchdown giving the visitors a 12-0 halftime lead.

Kinston was forced to punt on the opening drive of the half, and the visiting Dawgs were anxious to extend their lead. Twice Kinston's defense forced fourth and long during the drive, but twice Geneva County

converted, and Reese connected with Key for his second TD reception of the game. Jake Kelley stopped the game 70 yards. Erick Odom plowed into the end zone from 3 yards out to put the Dawgs on the scoreboard. Wesley Burton tacked on the extra point and Kinston closed the lead to 18-7.

New head coach Sam Dean commented after the loss, "We played with a lot of heart, and had intensity for the whole game. That's not quite as good as a win, but I'm proud of them. They played a good game."

When Kinston travels to McKenzie next Friday, he expects they will face a similar spread offense. "We have a week to work on mistakes and get better."

The hometown offense found success on the ground late in the game with Jacobs, Odom, and Moore combining to cover 70 yards. Erick Odom plowed into the end zone from 3 yards out to put the Dawgs on the scoreboard. Wesley Burton tacked on the extra point and Kinston closed the lead to 18-7.

Garrett Moore dribbled the inside kick up the middle and Matt Whigham recovered, but Kinston was unable to close the lead before time expired and Geneva County held on to claim the 18-7 win.

New head coach Sam Dean commented after the loss, "We played with a lot of heart, and had intensity for the whole game. That's not quite as good as a win, but I'm proud of them. They played a good game."

When Kinston travels to McKenzie next Friday, he expects they will face a similar spread offense. "We have a week to work on mistakes and get better."

## Region play kicks off

## Three area teams hit the road in week #2 action

The second week of the high school football season will kick-off Friday night, and with it will come the beginning of region play for all teams in the area, and across the state.

Following is a preview of this week's area action:

## Kinston at McKenzie

The Kinston Bulldogs will be looking to get in the win column and gain early momentum in the region race Friday night when they travel to McKenzie to tangle with the McKenzie Tigers. The Bulldogs dropped a disappointing 18-7 decision to the 2A Geneva County Bulldogs in last week's season opener, but moved the ball up and down the field on offense and made a number of big stops on defense, giving their fans hopes that wins were on the way. McKenzie opened its season with a 25-0 win over J.U. Blacksher, and the Tigers scored all 25 points in the second half as they unleashed a big-play offense that sparked the opening week win. Kinston will be confident heading into the Friday night clash, but must

contain the speed of the Tigers and control the clock is the Bulldogs are to have any hopes of bringing home the region win.

## New Brockton at Wicksburg

The New Brockton Gamecocks will travel to Wicksburg Friday night as they open region play against the Wicksburg Panthers. The Gamecocks opened the season with a bang last week as they ripped Zion Chapel 34-14, and in the win the Gamecocks combined a hard-nosed running attack with a big play passing game to light up the scoreboard. New Brockton did have some problems at times on defense, but put on a winning performance that had the Gamecocks and their fans crowing. Wicksburg opened its season with an impressive win over Arton, a team that handed the Gamecocks a 26-0 preseason loss in just two quarters of play, and the Panthers are again considered one of the teams to beat in region play. New Brockton will be the underdog in this region encounter. However, the Gamecocks got a huge shot of confidence last week and should be ready to battle the Panthers in this key early-season clash.

## Brantley at Pleasant Home

The Brantley Bulldogs will be hoping to keep its long region win streak alive Friday night when they travel to Covington County to meet the Pleasant Home Eagles. The Bulldogs were impressive last week in rolling past 3A Elba 34-8, and in the win the Bulldogs displayed a balanced attack on offense as they rushed for 281 yards and completed 4 of 6 passes. Brantley's defense was dominating in the win, and appeared to be as good as ever, despite last season's heavy losses caused by the graduation of 17 seniors. Pleasant Home is under a new coach this season and came out flying high last week in a 28-6 win over 2A Samson. The Eagles were the last team in the region to post a win over the Bulldogs, and with a new coach and a new excitement, there is little doubt they will be ready to soar this week in the region opener. Brantley should be able to use its strength and power to carry home a win, but Pleasant

Home might just put up a fight.

## Arton at Zion Chapel

The Zion Chapel Rebels will be looking to give new coach Thomas Boswell a huge region win Friday night when the Rebels host the highly-touted Arton Purple Cats. The Rebels opened the season last week on the road and dropped a 34-14 decision to the 2A New Brockton Gamecocks, but moved the ball well against their 2A neighbors and showed promise of better things to come. Arton, the region runner-up last season, dropped its regular season opener to 2A Wicksburg, and will come to town looking to rebound in a hurry as the Purple Cats get into region play. The "Cats are expected to be a team to watch in the region again this season, and will be focused when they take the field against the Rebels. This one may look like an easy Arton win on paper, but Zion Chapel has a dangerous team that is hungry for a win, and this could be one to keep an eye on.

## Heat time-outs will be mandatory for first three weeks of season

Guidelines for the proper administration of football games during the 2007 season have been finalized by the AHSAA, including mandatory heat time-outs during early season games and mandatory starting times.

**Heat Time-outs:** According to Rule 3-5-7h in the National Federation Rules Book, an official may grant a heat time-out anytime during the contest when it is warranted. As a matter of procedure, the AHSAA has instructed the Referee at each game to make this decision. The

**AHSAA will mandate the heat time-outs being called during the first dead ball period after the six-minute mark in each of the four quarters. These mandated time-outs will be used during the first three weeks of the season that begins Aug. 30 or 31.**

**Halftime:** According to Rule 3, Section 1, Table 3-1 Note 2, the AHSAA has set a mandatory length for halftimes of all member school contests. Varsity game halftimes will be 20 minutes in length while all sub-varsity halftimes will be 15 minutes in length.

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## SPORTS

## In season opener

## Gamecocks break loose in second half to ambush Zion Chapel 34-14

Statistics by Chris Winters and  
Trey Medley  
Photos by Chris Winters

The New Brockton Gamecocks spotted Zion Chapel an early touchdown and then came storming back as they ripped the Rebels 34-14, last Friday night at Gamecock Stadium, in New Brockton.

Zion Chapel received the opening kickoff and wasted little time getting on the scoreboard as the Rebels marched 80 yards in seven plays to reach the endzone. A 26-yard scamper by Joey Jones on the first play from scrimmage ignited the Rebels' scoring march, while the touchdown came on a 24-yard dash by Garrett Stinson. The extra-point try was blocked, but with 9:20 still remaining in the first quarter Zion Chapel was already on top 6-0.

New Brockton began its first offensive series at its own 29-yardline, and answered the early score by the Rebels, as the Gamecocks covered the 71 yards to the endzone in six plays. The touchdown came on a 56-yard pass from Nathan Foster to Dominique Muhammad, and the Gamecocks tacked on the extra point to lead 14-6 with 5:30 remaining in the quarter.

New Brockton got the first big break of the game on Zion Chapel's ensuing possession when Justin Griswold broke through to block a Rebel punt, handing the ball over to the Gamecocks at the Zion Chapel 1-yardline.

Nathan Foster sneaked over from a yard out on the next play, and the extra-point was again true, as New Brockton upped its lead to 14-6 with 3:29 left in the opening stanza.

New Brockton recovered a fumble on Zion Chapel's next offensive series and headed back toward the Rebel endzone. However, this time the Rebel defense rose to the challenge and turned back the scoring threat at the Zion Chapel 5-yardline.

Zion Chapel got a break midway through the second quarter when Gatlin Carley picked off a Gamecock pass and returned the interception 17 yards to the Rebel 37-yardline. The Rebels began a march toward the New Brockton endzone, and behind the running of Joey Jones and Luke Peters reached a first down at the Gamecock 28-yardline. A penalty and a 7-yard loss on a running play stalled the drive; however, and the Rebels came away empty-handed when a fourth down pass fell incomplete.

New Brockton failed to move the chains on its first possession of the second half, but Zion



Zion Chapel's Luke Peters (10) tries to pull away from New Brockton's Hayden Smith (68) in action in Friday night. Closing in for help is Gamecock teammate Matt Moore (82). The Gamecocks will travel to Wicksburg Friday night in region play, while the Rebels will host Arton.

Chapel was again ready to take a hike down the field and rode the legs of Joey Jones and the arm of Luke Peters to a first down at the New Brockton 30-yardline. Jones gained 14 yards on five carries and Peters connected with Gatlin Carley for a 39-yard pass completion to help the Rebels head downfield. A penalty on third down and three slowed the drive; however, and once again the Rebels were turned away when a fourth down pass missed its target.

New Brockton took over at its own 27-yardline, and took advantage of 35 yards in penalties to quickly head down the field to add to its advantage. A 9-yard pass from Nathan Foster to Seth Culverhouse was a key play early in the long scoring drive, while the touchdown came on a 19-yard dash by David Davidson. The extra-point try failed, but with 1:29 left in the third quarter the Gamecocks owned a 20-6 lead.

Zion Chapel turned the ball over on downs at its own 29-yardline on its next possession, and New Brockton took advantage of the excellent field-position to quickly add to its lead.

A 19-yard gain by Tevin McNair was a big play in the five-play scoring drive, while the score came on a 1-yard quarterback sneak by Nathan Foster. The extra-point was true, and with 8:11 remaining in the fourth quarter the Gamecocks' lead was up to 27-6.

New Brockton began its next possession at its own 38-yardline, and once again set sails toward the Rebel endzone as the Gamecocks blew the game open.

A 28-yard pass from Nathan Foster to Seth Culverhouse was a key play early in the long scoring drive, and Foster added a



NOWHERE TO RUN... New Brockton's Cedric Gibson (60) and a teammate combine to stop a Zion Chapel runner for a short gain.

13-yard gain on an option, while the score came when David Davidson scored on a 3-yard run. The extra-point was successful, and with 3:03 still left in the fourth quarter

Gamecocks were crowing loudly as they owned a big 34-6 lead over their cross-county rivals.

Zion Chapel got back into the endzone on its final possession of the night as the Rebels drove 65 yards in seven plays. Joey Jones gained 31 yards on four carries to lead the Rebels downfield, while the touchdown came on a 38-yard pass from Luke Peters to Gatlin Carley with 2:31 left on the clock. The two-point conversion was successful, making the final score New Brockton 34 Zion Chapel 14.

Nathan Foster rushed for 51 yards and 2 touchdowns to lead the New Brockton offense, while David Davidson added 41 yards rushing and scored 2 touchdowns. Dominique Muhammad had 56 yards in receptions and one touchdown,

while Seth Culverhouse pulled in 54 yards in receptions. Muhammad and Davidson led the Gamecocks on defense with 7 tackles apiece, while Justin Griswold had 6 stops and Austin Bryant had 5.

Joey Jones gained 135 yards on 24 carries to lead the Rebels' ground attack, while Garrett Stinson added 35 yards on four carries and scored 1 touchdown. Luke Peters gained 32 yards on 15 carries and completed 2 of 8 passes for 67 yards and 1 touchdown. On defense, Zion Chapel was led by Blake Little with 7 tackles, while Casey North added 5 stops and Peters had 4 tackles.

## STATISTICS

	ZC	NB
1st Downs	11	13
Rushes-Yds.	50-214	35-156
Passing Yds.	67	130
Total Offense	281	286
Passes	2-8-1	7-9-1
Fumbles/Lost	1/1	0/0
Punts-Ave.	2-31	1-43
Penalties-Yds.	10-75	1-5

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New Brockton head coach Dirk Strunk paces the sidelines as the Gamecocks do battle in recent high school football action. The Gamecocks posted a 34-14 win over Zion Chapel last week in the season opener for both county rivals.

**Let's Go... Outdoors with Ben**  
by Ben Norman, Sports Columnist

**Modifying lures & hooks can help with your catch**

Talk to any experienced angler and most of them will tell you the number one reason for failing to connect with a striking fish is dull hooks. "There are few items in any tackle box that are more useful than a good hook sharpener.

Small hooks up to medium size treble hooks can be sharpened with a fine stone. Larger saltwater hooks and large spinner baits hooks may sharpen faster with a small file. To check hooks for sharpness apply the fingernail test. Drag the point carefully across your fingernail at a slight angle. If it snags, then it's sharp enough, if it slides across without snagging it needs sharpening.

Modifying hooks slightly can also increase the hookup ratio. Spreading hooks out slightly from their shank is a trick used by many fishermen. Widening the gap with long nose pliers will improve the efficiency of single or treble hooks. Take needle-nose pliers and gently grip the hook below the barb and bend outward away from the hook shank. This will open the bend up enough that the point will penetrate the fish's mouth better when the hook is set. Hooks modified this way will improve hookups, but they will also increase hang-ups in brushy areas.

Fishing lures can also be improved with a little home tinkering. One trick an elderly fisherman showed me when I was a teenager was how to keep crank baits from hanging up so often. He clipped off the front hook (the one where the point points toward the head of the bait) on the front set of trebles. This works especially well when fishing heavily obstructed waters.

Crank baits can be made to run deeper by adding commercially available stick on weights or by "Carolina rigging" them. Thread a bullet weight onto the line and add a swivel. Tie on a leader long enough that the bullet weight doesn't interfere with the baits natural action, usually 12 to 18 inches.

Adding trailers to spinner baits and buzz baits can often entice wary bass to hit. Add a curly tailed grub or cut the front portion of a plastic worm off and thread the smaller rear section on the hook. This is one way of instantly adding a contrasting color to the bait. The added attraction of sound can be achieved by inserting plastic rattles into the bait right behind where it attaches to the hook.

Top water plugs can be made to sit with their head sticking up similar to an injured baitfish by adding an oversize rear treble hook. More weight can be added to the rear hook by wrapping it with lead wire. Crank baits and plugs can be made to look injured by dabbing a little red paint or fingernail polish on them behind the front section.

A little "home tuning" on your baits and hooks can increase your catch-and-above all, remember to sharpen those hooks.

## Low country boil set for Sept. 20 in Dothan

As the close of another great summer at Landmark Park grows near, so does the park's eighth annual "Low Country Boil", scheduled for Thursday, September 20th at Landmark Park in Dothan.

A "low country boil", a coastal standing tradition in the long regions of South Carolina and Georgia, is a one-pot dish that makes use of shrimp, corn-on-the-cob, sausage, potatoes, and the chef's own "culinary stylings." This year's fund-raiser promises plenty of great food and music, an exciting silent and live auction, and the opportunity to have a fantastic time while helping raise funds for Landmark Park. Proceeds from the event will go toward the existing debt of \$85,000 on the new Stokes Activity Barn and to meet the requirements of a "challenge grant" issued by the Wiregrass Foundation. The Wiregrass Foundation has agreed to match dollar-for-dollar, up to \$42,500, all contribu-

**HOME COMING SEPTEMBER 28 IN ELBA MAKE PLANS TO JOIN THE CELEBRATION!**



An Elba Lady Tiger goes high to make a block in recent volleyball action. The Lady Tigers defeated Laverne last week for their first win of the season. (Mike Capps photo)



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## USDA announces sign-up dates for new livestock and crop disaster programs

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced sign-up dates for the new Livestock Compensation Program, provide benefits to farmers and ranchers who suffered losses caused by natural disasters in recent years.

Eligible ranchers and other livestock producers can apply to receive benefits under the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) and Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) beginning Sept. 10. Eligible farmers can sign-up for the Crop Disaster Program (CDP) beginning Oct. 15, if they suffered quantity losses to their crops. USDA will announce and conduct CDP sign-up for quality losses at a later date.

More information about LCP, LIP and CDP is available in a fact sheet titled, "Agricultural Assistance Act of 2007, found on FSA's Web site, <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/>, click on Disaster Assistance Programs.

## HOME FURNISHING SALE

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## BUSY

(Continued from Page One)

ule of events this year comes with the annual Christmas Festival. For years, the Christmas Festival has filled the downtown square in Elba on the Saturday after Thanksgiving in November. However, that will not be the case this year.

Due to other events being scheduled for that day, chamber officials decided it would be best to reschedule the Christmas Festival this year.

Therefore, the annual Christmas Festival and Parade will this year be held Saturday, Dec. 8. The Christmas Festival will be held throughout the day with the parade in the early evening. Chamber officials said they also are discussing additional events for this special day and more information will be forthcoming as plans are final-

ized. For more information on these events or other activities

sponsored by the Elba Chamber of Commerce, call (334) 897-3125.



IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS...The Elba Chamber of Commerce has lighted miniature replicas of the historic Coffee County Courthouse in Elba available for purchase. Anyone interested in purchasing a lighted courthouse should call the Elba Chamber of Commerce office at (334) 897-3125 or stop by the office, located on Putnam Street in downtown Elba.

Additional scenes from the Academic Pep Rally held recently at Zion Chapel



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INSIDE  
Check presentation made recently in Kinston

# The Elba Clipper

Volume 111, Number 14 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, September 13, 2007 1 Section, 16 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

## During very lengthy meeting Coffee County Commission discusses FY2008 budget

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Commission broke the Monday, Sept. 10, regular meeting into two sessions resulting in a short morning session and an extremely long afternoon session.

During the morning session of the meeting, Debbie Kasper addressed commissioners on behalf of Girl Scouts. She said the Girl Scouts organization is looking to use the farm center complex on April 5, 2008 for a "Thinking Day Ceremony." She said the ceremony will be approximately 3-4 hours.

Kasper said there are currently 10 Girl Scout troops in Coffee County. She said officials hope to have even more real soon.

With Girl Scouts being a non-profit organization, Kasper said the group was trying to get the farm center for as low a fee as possible.

Commission chairman Jim Thompson made a motion with a second from Commissioner Robert Stephens to allow the Girl Scouts use of the farm center on April 5th. If it is not already taken that day and also waive the fee for use. This motion passed by a 6-0 vote (Commissioner Bernest Brooks was not in attendance).

Commissioner Robert Westbrooke specifically noted a concern she had with the sheriff's budget including a helicopter.

Westbrooke indicated she would not vote to approve a

the First Baptist Church will celebrate 125 years next month while Westside Baptist Church will celebrate 50 years on Nov. 5th. This motion passed unanimously.

Commissioners approved a motion to give the county's attorney authority to proceed with deed and title work on land being sold by the county to the Dialysis Clinic of Enterprise.

During the morning, commissioners also approved a bid for a compactor repair to Thompson Tractor Co. at \$26,768, voted to adopt new subdivision regulations and gave county engineer Randy Tindell permission to purchase a boom-cutter head.

Approximately 30 minutes into Monday's meeting, it was recessed until 1:30 in the afternoon. After reconvening, commissioners voted almost immediately to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation with an attorney.

Approximately an hour and a half later, the meeting was reopened, and the focus turned to the Fiscal Year 2008 budget.

While discussing ways to make the budget balance, commissioners and county administrator Kathy Lolley spent a great deal of time Monday looking over the sheriff department's budget.

Commissioner Linda Westbrooke specifically noted a concern she had with the sheriff's budget including a helicopter.

Westbrooke indicated she would not vote to approve a

## Elba City Council begins looking at budget for Fiscal Year 2008

by Fern Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council approved payment of the monthly bills Monday evening. That motion and one to adopt a state resolution on a one-time pay boost for retired employees were the only two items requiring a vote of the council.

However, things could get tense for the next couple of meetings as the mayor and council attempt to hammer out a balanced budget for the coming fiscal year which begins on October 1st. Mayor James Grimes presented council members with a draft budget for their review and set a workshop for next Monday evening at 5:30 to discuss the proposal line-by-line.

The mayor did explain that his proposal includes a small pay raise for all city employees. It also reflects increased cost of health insurance for city employees.

The monthly bills totaled \$85,902.75. This included the usual transfers to the Elba schools, \$6,874.20 for gasoline, \$15,557.64 for a loan payment to the bank and \$6,837.47 for insurance premiums.

The council officially adopted a resolution from the State of Alabama retirement funds approving and funding a one-

time extra payment to all retired employees. The actual cost to the City of Elba will be \$2,343.

It covers 10 retired employees. Police Chief Freddy Hanchey told council members that operations within the department were routine with citations and arrests slowing down some from previous months.

Grimes briefly discussed the monthly financial statement, noting that income is below budget amounts, but expenses have been cut enough to take care of the shortfall. He noted the income drop can be directly traced to a \$200,000 drop in grants and the city having not yet received projected \$55,000 in financial institutional fees.

City Clerk Wayne Grantham noted the stripping on U.S. 84 is almost complete, clean up efforts are ongoing, work on the former Beaver Dam Trailer Park continues as the airport work moves forward and the city continues with the demolition work across from Dorsey Trailers.

budget that included a helicopter. She said that purchasing a helicopter would be a mistake.

Sheriff Dave Sutton was not present when the budget discussion began Monday afternoon, however, he and a few of his department heads soon arrived to participate in the discussions. For quite some time, commissioners and the sheriff went back and forth with their discussions of what could be done to make the budget work. Several times, the sheriff stressed that his department needs manpower and equipment - two items it seems he may get less of than he asked for out of the FY2008.

As 5 p.m. approached Monday afternoon, commissioners began to conclude their budget discussion for the day as the county administrator took note of new ideas to work with in trying to complete the proposed FY2008 budget.

The next work session for the county commission is set for Tuesday, Sept. 18, at 1:30 p.m. where again commissioners will continue to work on the budget as time is drawing near for it to be complete. Fiscal Year 2008 begins Oct. 1st.

Please See CCC, Page 16

## During New Brockton Town Council meeting Resident expresses concerns over reserve officers and "no parking" signs

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The New Brockton Town Council met Monday evening, Sept. 10, for the regular monthly

meeting with Mayor Pro Tem Johnnie Herron filling in for Mayor Charles Cole who was not able to attend due to illness. During his report to council

members, Police Chief Dale Grimes asked council members to approve sending two officers to the police academy in October. He said the total cost to send the two officers will be approximately \$10,620.

Council member Jeff White made a motion with a second from council member Richard Diskrell to send the two officers to the police academy. All council members voted in favor of the motion.

Chief Grimes said the two officers have agreed to sign a service contract with New Brockton prior to completing the academy.

Shortly after the police chief presented his monthly report, town resident Ricky Strickland addressed council members on a couple of issues - one pertaining to the police department.

In regards to routine driver's license check stops conducted by the New Brockton Police Department, Strickland said he wanted to know exactly who has the right to check driver's license. More to the point, Strickland expressed a concern about reserve officers being utilized at the checkpoints and how much authority the reserve officers are being given.

Strickland said it is his understanding that reserve officers

can only check a driver's license when a certified officer is also present. He expressed concern over a recent driver's license check on Hwy. 84 when there appeared to be more reserve officers present than certified officers.

Strickland also wondered if the reserve officers are being paid with grant funds for the checkpoints. In addition, he questioned if the reserve officers were being allowed to drive police cars as well.

Chief Grimes responded to Strickland's concerns/questions. He said the reserve officers are not being paid for working the license checks. He said they are volunteering their time and only the certified officers are paid with the grant funds that allow the department to hold the license checks.

Grimes also recalled the particular license check in which Strickland said he drove through when there seemed to be more reserve officers than certified officers. Grimes said he was the only certified officer on scene at the time; however, he also said the reason was that some arrests had been made earlier in the evening and the other officers

Please See TOWN, Page 16



REMEMBERING THOSE LOST...As the American flag waved in the air Tuesday, Sept. 11, it served as a symbolic reminder to all Americans of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks that claimed thousands of lives. In the days following the tragic events of Sept. 11th, the patriotism of Americans seemed to shine brightly as Americans mourned the deaths of more than 2,000 people. Today, Sept. 11th is known as Patriot Day as the country remembers those lost six years ago.

## Sgt. Eric Jordan awarded Army Chief of Staff coin

Sgt. (promotable) Eric Jordan was awarded the Army Chief of Staff coin in recognition of hard work and dedication to the 3rd Headquarters Brigade Combat Team (HBCT) on August 11. He was one of ten soldiers to receive the coin during a ceremony in Iraq.

The ceremony was conducted by Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey Jr. at Task Force Marne Headquarters.

Sgt. Jordan is a 1999 graduate of Elba High School and joined the Army in 2001. This reassignment will mark the third for him.

Sgt. Jordan and his wife, Angela, live in Phenix City and are the parents of five children.



Sgt. (promotable) Eric Jordan  
dren. He is stationed with the 3-1 Cavalry, 3rd Brigade, Kelly Hill at Fort Benning, Ga. Jordan's parents are Patricia Jordan of Elba and Charlie T. Jordan Jr.

## Area Happenings

THE NEW BROCKTON TOWN COUNCIL met Monday evening, Sept. 10, for the regular monthly meeting with Mayor Pro Tem Johnnie Herron filling in for Mayor Charles Cole who was not able to attend due to illness. During his report to council members, Police Chief Dale Grimes asked council members to approve sending two officers to the police academy in October. He said the total cost to send the two officers will be approximately \$10,620.

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Chief Grimes said the two officers have agreed to sign a service contract with New Brockton prior to completing the academy.

Shortly after the police chief presented his monthly report, town resident Ricky Strickland addressed council members on a couple of issues - one pertaining to the police department.

Elizabeth Hughes joined the Coffee County EMS team nearly three years ago. She serves as an EMT-Basic.

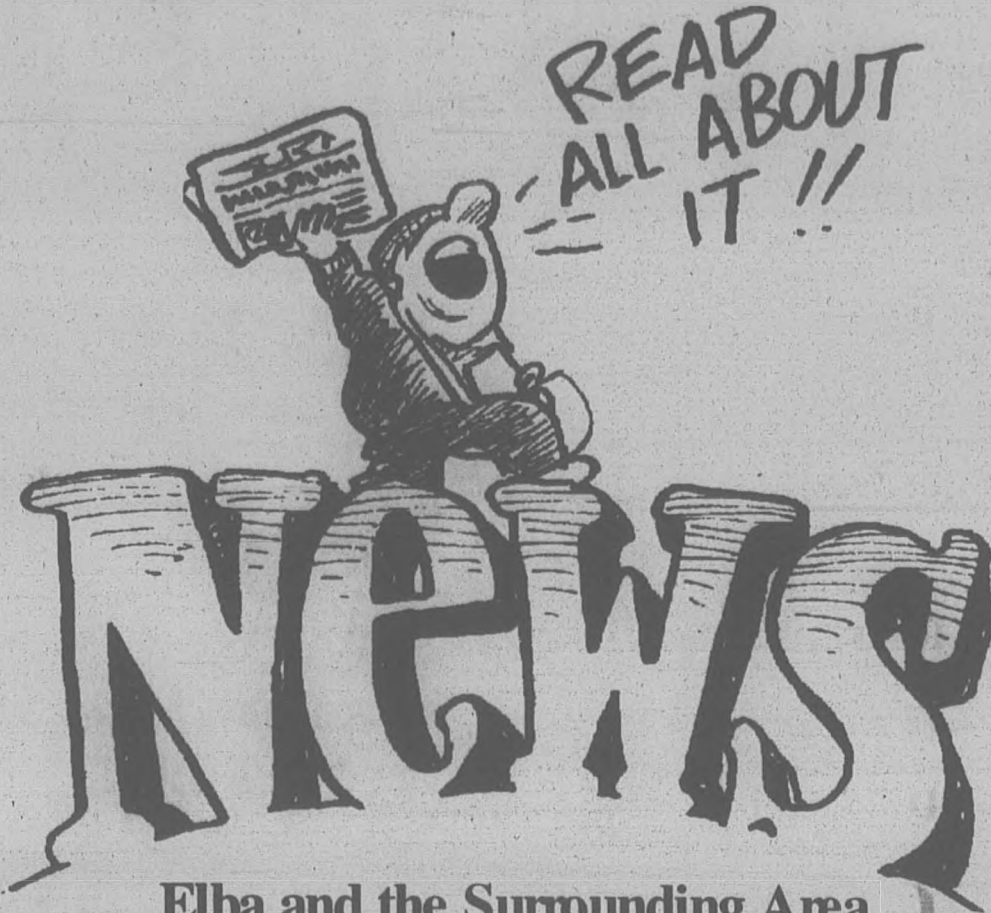
Hughes' training includes National Registered EMT-Basic, BLS, CPR and EVOC. When asked what she enjoys most about her job she said, "I enjoy the people that I work with. They are my friends and family."

Hughes said she has so many memories of events that have occurred on the job that it is hard to point one out. She added that she really loves her job and the experience she has gained and will carry on.

Elizabeth's family includes her husband, Randall, and daughter, Kimberlee Perry. Her hobbies include family time, fishing, shopping, playing online games, reading and catching up on sleep.



EMT-Basic Elizabeth Hughes  
She also is employed by Emergystat in Ozark. Hughes said she would like to return to school to obtain her Paramedic certification some time in the near future.



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